

Rs. 15 per acre for growing irrigated ragi during the kar season, (12) award of prizes for growing kar ragi, (13) issue of free manure seeds at half cost, (14) sale of groundnut oil cake at 75 per cent of the cost price for the first food crop and 50 per cent of the cost price for the subsequent food crop, (15) sale of all fertilisers such as ammonium sulphate, ammonium nitrate, superphosphate, bonemeal, etc., at 50 per cent of the cost price, (16) sale of implements at cost price with a nominal per centage of 2½ per cent and (17) issue of liberal takkavi loans repayable in 5 years and interest free.

7. *Tractor and Lorry Service.*—There were 21 tractors at the beginning of the year. With the extended tractor service sanctioned in April 1948, orders for a large number of tractors were placed. Forty-six new tractors were received and an extent of 2,368 acres was tractor ploughed during the year. The starting of a bull-dozer service in each district was being considered. About 150 tractors are contemplated to be put in service in the coming years.

There were at the beginning of the year, 13 lorries allotted to the Districts for transport of seed, manures, implements, etc., from rail heads to depots and sale depots in the interior parts and ten 5-ton lorries were purchased for the transport of compost from the depots to the raiyats' fields within a radius of 8 miles.

Out of about 80 lakhs of acres under occupation in Mysore, nearly 13 to 15 lakhs are left fallow owing to the dearth of bullocks, lack of finance and scarcity of labour, etc. With a view to bring back a large part of these existing fallow lands under cultivation and also to bring portion of unoccupied virgin land under the plough, a large fleet of tractors was proposed to be imported for service in all parts of the State. A five-year scheme for ploughing up about 70,000 acres each year was drawn up and was sanctioned by Government in April 1948. Twenty-five Massey Harris, twenty Fordson and one W.D. 9 International Harvester tractors were purchased. A Tractor Engineer was appointed and a large number of drivers were under training, Tractor Supervisors, one for each district, were recruited and given preliminary training.

8. *Town Compost Scheme.*—This scheme which was started in 1943 under the auspices of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research was taken over by the State Government in 1945 and continued for 3 years. It came to a close on 31st July 1948. The total expenditure during the three-year period was Rs. 46,800. The number of Municipalities that started composting work was 84 as against 66 in the previous year. The total production was 27,587 tons as against 26,160 tons in 1946-47.

9. *Post-war schemes.*—The Department was actively engaged in the development and operation of the following post-war schemes:—

(i) *Multiplication and distribution of improved paddy strains.*—Basic seed farms were opened in all the districts and seeds further multiplied in the holdings of registered growers under departmental supervision. Forty thousand, seven hundred and forty pallas of seed paddy were produced. Seven hundred and sixty-one subsidised plots were laid over an area of 2,500 acres for further multiplication. About 13 lakhs pallas of seeds were purchased during the year.

(ii) *Rural Compost Scheme.*—In addition to the Town Compost Scheme the rural compost scheme was introduced, involving a non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 56,250 and a total recurring expenditure of Rs. 2,48,790 over 10,000 villages, the work was in progress in 139 villages, 10,656 tons of compost having been prepared.

(iii) *Establishment of Regional Farms.*—This is a new scheme sanctioned in November 1948 for starting five regional experimental stations in different crop regions of the State at an estimated recurring cost of Rs. 4,60,670 and a non-recurring cost of Rs. 1,46,580. Necessary staff was posted and sites for locating the farms were selected and estimates were prepared for the construction of the buildings required.

(iv) *Establishment of Demonstration Farms at Taluk Headquarters.*—The establishment of 50 farms in Taluk Headquarters was sanctioned during the year at the rate of 5 each year at a total estimated cost of Rs. 11,04,400 non-recurring and Rs. 1,08,850 recurring. The first of these farms was started in Bugadanahalli Village, Tumkur Taluk during the year.

(v) *Establishment of additional Kannada Agricultural Schools and starting of a short course of training to Agriculturists in improved methods of agriculture by selecting one agriculturist from each hobli and taking them in batches for instructions to Government Farms at Government expense were other schemes sanctioned during the year. A scheme for the award of prizes to progressive farmers in all the districts was formulated to create a zeal and encouragement for improved agriculture. The re-organisation of the Agricultural Statistics and Meteorology Section was sanctioned. Its main activities include crop surveys, estimation of incidence of pests and diseases, forecast of crop yields, etc. The statistician of the Department was deputed to United States of America to study the latest methods relating to statistics. He has since returned and been placed in charge of the section.*

10. *Other activities.*—Under the cotton distribution scheme six subvention farms, six demonstration plots and five 'A' Farms were laid to popularise the departmental strains and to acquaint the cultivators with proper methods of cotton cultivation.

In order to render the plant protection service more effective and to take preventive and remedial measures, a scheme was sanctioned whereby trained Plant Protection Assistants were stationed in every district. Special staff was recruited and anti-pest measures were set on foot. Thirty thousand, one hundred and seventy acres were surveyed in 1,214 villages, 6,778 were found infested, 4,849 acres were treated and 294 demonstrations were conducted during the year.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Special Committee appointed for the Lakkavalli Reservoir Project, soil survey was undertaken during the year under the lands coming under the Malebennur Branch and the Davangere Branch of the project to classify and map out the soils in the area to record the existing and proposed agricultural practices for suitable crop planning purposes.

The Sales service organised by the Department through the Agricultural Depots and Sub-Depots was popular and the demand for improved seeds, manures, implements, sprayers, insecticides and fungicides far exceeded the supply. The requirements of the Agriculturists were also arranged to be met by distribution of manure, seeds, implements through the Co-operative Societies.

11. *General.*—The work of the Department was on the whole, satisfactory.

MIR SAFDAR HUSSAIN, *Genl. Secy.*

ELECTRICAL SECRETARIAT

Reviews the Administration Report of the Electrical Department for the year 1947-48.

READ:—

Letter No. 15368, dated the 30th October 1948, from the Chief Electrical Engineer, forwarding the Administration Report of the Electrical Department for the year 1947-48.

ORDER No. E.D.S. 1115-1214—ELECT. 153-48-7, DATED BANGALORE, THE 11TH OCTOBER 1949.

Against the demand of Rs. 1,20,20,989 the collection actually made amounted to Rs. 1,18,69,019 and there was an arrears of Rs. 8,65,477, as against Rs. 8,53,417 during the last year. Proper arrangements should be made for the collection of these arrears, as the Electrical Department is expected to run on a commercial basis and for the service rendered its revenue should be properly collected.

The Working Expenses during the year under review amounted to Rs. 52,71,114 as against Rs. 43,92,561 during last year. This is stated to be mainly due to the recent revision of the grades and increased Dearness Allowance, and to the increased rate of contribution to the Depreciation Fund. The Working Expense incurred was equivalent to 43.8 per cent as against 37.8 per cent.

The net receipts during the year was Rs. 68,38,087 as against Rs. 74,39,998 during the previous year.

The total capital outlay during the year under review amounted to Rs. 76,15,573 as against the revised grant of Rs. 1,56,23,000 and the heavy lapse is stated to be mainly due to the non-receipt of materials well in time. The department

should, as far as possible, correctly forecast its requirements of materials and the probable date of their arrival and then make suitable provision therefor in the budget without allowing large sums to lapse. Providing large capital and then allowing it to lapse will only lock up the capital unnecessarily. This should be avoided.

It is also observed in a number of cases that heavy savings are effected in the estimates during execution indicating that the works are overestimated in the first instance to keep the expenditure within the estimates. The principle to be observed in preparing estimates for works is that the costs should be reckoned as close to actuals as possible at the time of estimating so that the executive officers are encouraged to observe the greatest economy in expenditure of public funds. Government may be approached for extra funds to complete the works.

The demand for automatic telephones in Bangalore and Mysore is increasing day by day and in order to meet the growing need of the people, orders have been placed for the extension equipments and on their arrival, arrangements will be made to instal the same and service them to the public. Proper arrangements should be made to settle the accounts of the Post and Telegraphs Department in regard to the revenue realised from Trunk Calls.

Though schemes for the electrification of a large number of towns and villages have been sanctioned, the respective works could not be taken up owing to the paucity of the materials and their non-receipt in time. Every attempt should be made to procure the materials required and service the installations.

The number of irrigation pumps in service during the year was 1,283. Attempts should be made to give power to more pumps to be used for growing food crops as that will help the State to tide over the food situation. Priority should be given to those who intend to grow food crops.

The value of the Stores purchased during the year both under Local and Foreign amounted to Rs. 90,45,450 as against the provision of Rs. 2,62,46,211 in the Stores Budget for the year.

The works connected with the surveys for the Makedatu Hydro-Electric Project were also under progress.

It is seen that out of the 12 Sectional and 52 Sub-Sectional Offices, which should have been inspected by the Auditor and his Assistants, only five Sectional Offices and 27 Sub-Sectional Offices were alone inspected. The Auditor should make proper arrangements for the periodical inspections of both the Sectional and the Sub-Sectional Offices to ensure that the Sections and Sub-Sections are working alright.

There were three pre-arranged shut-downs lasting for 21 hours and 36 minutes on the Kolar, Mysore and Bangalore Transmission systems and 37 unforeseen interruptions lasting for 7 hours and 56 minutes. The department should make proper arrangements to see that these unforeseen interruptions are reduced to the barest minimum.

There were 13 cases of fatal accidents of which one related to the departmental employee and the remaining 12 to private persons. The uses and dangers of electricity should be properly notified in all the rural parts so that the people may be warned of the risks in touching electrical wires, etc. It should also be seen that whenever wires snap, they are immediately set right to prevent ignorant people coming in contact with them. A 'safety-first' campaign should be vigorously pursued.

The works connected with the Jog Hydro-Electric Scheme were completed to the extent of 80 per cent and the first two generators were commissioned into service and the other two were being tested. The equipment required for the extension of this project has been ordered and some of these materials as 18,000 K.W. Generating Units, H.T. Switch-gear and Transformers have been received.

The working of the department during the year under review continued to be satisfactory.

H. V. VISVESVARAYYA, *Elect. Secy.*